**Linking Bhiwadi with Delhi-Ahmedabad rail line**

891. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether linking Bhiwadi to Delhi-Ahmedabad broad gauge railway line is vital for industrial growth of NCR as well as Rajasthan as Bhiwadi is an industrial hub of Rajasthan,
which is located in the National Capital Region;

(b) whether his Ministry has suggested the State Government to incur the cost of this project;

(c) if so, the response of the State Government in this regard;

(d) whether Government realizing the importance of the project is going to sanction this linking railway line;

(e) if so, by when; and

(0 if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (f) A survey for construction of a new broad gauge line between Rewari-Bhiwadi was completed in 2003-04. As per the survey report, the cost of construction of 24.87 kms long line had been assessed as Rs. 105.04 crore with a Rate of Return as (-) 8.56%. The State Government of Rajasthan expressed their willingness to take up this project under National Capital Region Plan and Assistance to the State for Infrastructure Development for Export and Allied Activities (ASIDE) Scheme. The matter was referred to the State Government for bearing the cost of the project but there was no positive response in this regard. In view of this, the proposed new line was not taken up due to its unremunerative nature and constraint of resources.

However, an updating survey for a new line linking Bhiwadi to Delhi-Ahmedabad broad gauge line (27 kms) has been proposed in the Railway Budget 2008-09.

**Contracts to foreign firms for upgradation of stations**

892. SHRI MATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
PROF. ALKABALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to upgrade several railway stations across the country to world class standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether foreign based firms have been selected for the development of railway stations;

(d) if so, the criteria adopted for selecting such foreign firms; and

(e) the terms and conditions laid down by the Government in awarding such contracts to foreign firms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Following stations have been identified for re-development as World Class stations:—